

Jeanne Flynn MSN, APRN

Hartford School Health Professionals, AFT Local 1018A/B

50 Seminole Circle

West Hartford, CT 06117

860-233-8562

*Testimony in opposition to **HB 5538***

**AN ACT CONCERNING A PILOT PROGRAM FOR SCHOOL-BASED  
HEALTH CARE CENTERS**

I am a Family Nurse Practitioner working in the school based health clinics of the Hartford Public schools and I am writing to question the need for “AN ACT CONCERNING A PILOT PROGRAM FOR SCHOOL-BASED HEALTH CARE CENTERS”. Where I am not opposed to research into the area integration of care, I am unable to fathom a system that would work equally well in all settings.

The concept of using “best practices” in a clinical setting refers to identifying the best diagnostic, treatment and preventative techniques to guide care for a given patient population and is typically based upon research. For instance, our clinical practice is guided by the American Academy of Pediatrics, given that we work with children, and meets national standards.

School based health clinics function much like an urgent care setting given that we are not the child’s primary care provider. However, in the Hartford Public schools, we already work closely with both private practices and community clinics to coordinate appropriate care for our children. The barriers to integration of care vary by setting depending upon the accessibility of staff and the business of any given practice. I cannot imagine one system that would work equally well for urban, suburban, rural, private and community settings.